

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JIM PETERSON**, on January 26, 2005 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jim Peterson, Chairman (R)
Rep. Christopher Harris, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)
Rep. Dee L. Brown (R)
Rep. Paul Clark (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. George Everett (R)
Rep. Kevin T. Furey (D)
Rep. Gail Gutsche (D)
Rep. Ralph Heinert (R)
Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Rick Maedje (R)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. David E. Wanzenried (D)

Staff Present: Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 22, 1/17/2005; HB 361, 1/21/2005
Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 22**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:13 **REP. WALTER MCNUTT (R), HD 37**, opened the hearing on **HB 22**, Funding for water adjudication.

EXHIBIT (nah20a01)

EXHIBIT (nah20a02)

EXHIBIT (nah20a03)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:16:24 Tom Ebzevy, Billings, Environmental Equality Council

00:19:28 John Youngbird, Montana Farm Bureau

00:20:53 John Bloomquist, Montana Stock Growers Association

00:25:40 John Prinkki, Montana Association of Counties

00:27:40 John Shontz, J.M. Shontz & Associates, LLC, North West Montana Association of Realtors

EXHIBIT (nah20a04)

00:32:59 Chris Ahner, North West Montana Association of Realtors

00:33:47 Lochiel Edwards, Montana Grain Growers Association

00:34:38 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association

00:36:12 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

EXHIBIT (nah20a05)

00:41:31 Ken Morrison, PPL Montana

00:43:29 Robert N. (Bob) Lane, Chief Counsel, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

EXHIBIT (nah20a06)

00:47:05 Chris Christeans, Montana Farmers Union

00:49:00 John Wilson, Montana Trout Unlimited

00:50:27 Glenn Oppel, Montana Association of Realtors

00:51:19 Neil Colwell, Avista Corporation

00:52:36 Barbara Broberg, Women Involved in Farm Economics

00:53:12 William Almy, Eastern Montana Rancher

00:55:11 Holly Franz, Water Rights Attorney, Helena

00:56:18 Bruce Loble, Chief Judge, Water Court

00:56:45 **REP. BARRETT**

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:57:38 Jack Stults, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

EXHIBIT (nah20a07)

EXHIBIT (nah20a08)

EXHIBIT (nah20a09)

00:58:45 Neil Peterson, Montana Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:59:07 REP. BROWN
 01:03:50 REP. ROSS
 01:06:36 REP. JOPEK
 01:14:14 REP. SMALL-EASTMAN
 01:16:32 REP. CLARK
 01:22:45 REP. HARRIS
 01:25:30 REP. JOPEK
 01:27:37 REP. MAEDJE
 01:29:18 REP. ROSS
 01:32:14 CHAIRMAN PETERSON

01:33:55 **Closing by Sponsor:** REP. WALTER MCNUTT (R), HD 37,
 closed the hearing on HB 22.

01:38:09 break
 01:49:48 resume

HEARING ON HB 361

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:49:58 REP. DAVE GALLIK (D), HD 79, opened the hearing on
 HB 361, Revise opencut mining act.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:54:03 Neil Harrington, Department of Environmental
 Quality

EXHIBIT (nah20a10)

EXHIBIT (nah20a11)

02:01:01 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors' Association
 02:03:49 Alrick Hale, General Manager, JTL Group, Inc.,
 Kalispell
 02:05:11 Al Schellinger, Schellinger Construction Company,
 Whitefish Montana
 02:06:44 Ellen Engstedt, Montana Wood Products Association
 02:09:49 Tom Evans, President, Century Company, Lewistown
 02:11:18 Hal Fuglevand, President, E.H. Oftedal & Sons,
 Miles City
 02:12:50 Gene Schadt, President, Helena Sand & Gravel

EXHIBIT (nah20a12)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:15:28 **REP. JOPEK**

EXHIBIT (nah20a13)

02:19:12 **REP. MAEDJE**

02:25:32 **REP. BROWN**

02:27:30 **CHAIRMAN PETERSON**

02:29:06 **REP. JONES**

02:31:43 **REP. MAEDJE**

02:35:27 _____ **Closing by Sponsor:** **REP. DAVE GALLIK (D), HD 79,**
closed hearing on HB 361.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:45 P.M.

REP. JIM PETERSON, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

JP/dp

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nah20aad0.PDF](#))